

REMARKS

Claims 40-43 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 40, 42 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,966,671 (Mitchell) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,529,713 (Seymour), and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,873,317 (Griffin), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,178,338 (Yamagishi), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,159,713 (Gaskill). The Examiner has rejected Claim 41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell in view of Seymour, Griffin, Yamagishi, and Gaskill, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,915,228 (Kunihiro).

Regarding the rejection under §103(a) of independent Claim 40, the Examiner states that Mitchell in view of Seymour, and further in view of Griffin, and further in view of Yamagishi, and further in view of Gaskill renders the claim unpatentable. Mitchell discloses a radiotelephone having an auxiliary actuator and method for operating said radiotelephone; Seymour discloses a handset; Griffin discloses a hand-held electronic device with a keyboard optimized for use with the thumbs; Yamagishi discloses a communication terminal apparatus and method for selecting options using a dial shuttle; and, Gaskill discloses a watch pager and wrist antenna.

The Examiner now cites Gaskill as teaching pressing the protrusion of the multi-function key greater than a predetermined number of times to generate a fourth input signal, and cited col. 8, lines 24-30. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Referring to col.8, lines 24 – 30 of Gaskill, asserted to disclose a fourth input signal generated by pressing a protrusion of a multi-function key more than a predetermined number of times as recited in Claim 40 of the present application, the letters on the key are displayed by the order of their positions on the key according to the number of key presses. For example, in Gaskill, pressing key 2 once is an “a”, and pressing key 2 twice is a “b”.

As such, while an input key is one of the keys assigned to the keypad of the telephone 24, rather than a single multi-function key included in the watch pager 20 of Gaskill, a key for

generating the fourth input signal in Claim 40 of the present application is a single multi-function key included in a watch-type portable phone.

In addition, the letters on a key are displayed by the order of their positions on the key according to the number of key presses in Gaskill, whereas in Claim 40 of the present application a cursor for selecting a character/digit is moved according to the fourth input signal generated by pressing the protrusion of the multi-function key more than a predetermined number of times and a character/digit at which the cursor is located is selected according to a first input signal generated by pressing the protrusion of the multi-function key at least one time.

Therefore, Gaskill fails to disclose “a process of pressing the protrusion of the multi-function key more than a predetermined number of times to generate the fourth input signal”. Neither Mitchell, Seymour, Griffin, nor Yamagishi, either alone or in combination, cure the defects of Gaskill.

Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection under §103(a) of independent Claim 40 is respectfully requested.

Without conceding patentability per se of dependent Claims 41-43, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 41-43 are believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on Claim 40.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 40-43, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written in a cursive style.

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